

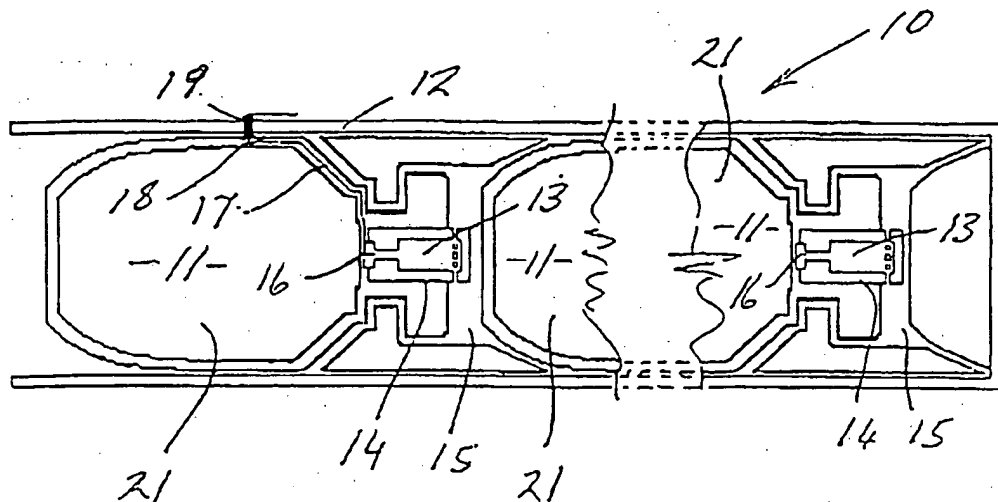
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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/AU00/00296</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: 7 April 2000 (07.04.00)</p> <p>(30) Priority Data: PP 9612 7 April 1999 (07.04.99) AU</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): METAL STORM LIMITED (AU/AU); Level 34, 345 Queen Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000 (AU).</p> <p>(72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): O'DWYER, James, Michael (AU/AU); 12 Peppertree Street, Sinnamon Park, Brisbane, QLD 4073 (AU).</p> <p>(74) Agent: PIZZEYS PATENT & TRADE MARK ATTORNEYS; Level 11, 167 Eagle Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000 (AU).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published With international search report.</p>

(54) Title: PROJECTILE LAUNCHING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract

Barrel assemblies (10) each include a plurality of projectiles (11) arranged in-line within barrel (12) and associated with discrete selectively ignitable propellant charges (13) for propelling projectiles (11) through the muzzle of barrel (12). Projectiles (11) are intended for civilian or non-military purposes and include holding body (17) in which matter or objects may be transported. Projectiles (11) are arranged with one another and barrel (12) so as to prevent rearward travel of an ignited propellant charge to the trailing propellant charge. The matter or objects contained within holding body (17) may include explosive charges for seismic exploration, fire retardants, fire extinguishing means, pyrotechnics, herbicide, insecticide, fertiliser or seeds. Methods of delivering loaded projectiles (11) for civilian purposes are claimed.